

AIMLESS WANDERING: an exhibit of paintings and photographs

By Alice Webb and Margot Geist

Open Space East Gallery

Saturday, April 17, 2021 - Saturday, June 12, 2021



Open Space: An invitation for exploration.

Gallery: A place to reflect, to see anew, refresh.

Aimless Wandering: Exploration without destination. A practice of mindfulness.

In our fast-paced, goal-oriented world, it's tempting to find the shortest possible route between one point and another, to stay the course and achieve a goal. Even when walking in the wilderness of our New Mexican bosques, this is often what we do.

Yet there are times we're called to wander, out into the beyond, between paths. To pay attention - to arrive, pause, and depart - with each footstep. Such embodied meandering sharpens our senses. As our awareness and perceptions heighten, so too, our appreciation of the immensity of natural resources. Creativity emerges and lingers here.

This two-person exhibit arises from mutual respect of the possibilities of exchange between self and the phenomenal world. The sensory information Alice gathers on these aimless wanderings, and the walks along the path, travel with her back to the studio where her perceptions are interpreted into shape and color. In this exhibit, her abstract works are inspired by natural forms. While her oil paintings and mixed media pieces reflect her personal wanderings in the bosque, they are also meant to encourage others to become environmental stewards by being more aware and knowledgeable about Open Space's natural landscapes.

Margot works with stratifications of photographic images that flicker between depth and surface. Sight and insight combine. She enlarges the space between what we think we know and what surprises us when multiple images are layered together. Her art is an invitation for viewers to step into an exchange with the phenomenal world and experience images in the gallery as collaboration brought into being by perceiving wanderers. In this energetic flow, viewers can move between land and exhibit: each meander stimulating different impressions.

The combined work for this exhibit reflects the transitory nature of the spiritual world, prompting rediscovery of viewers' ever-shifting perceptions of place/time/object, in rhythm with the daily here-and-nows offered at Open Space.



Open Space Visitor Center
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Tuesday - Saturday 9:00 to 5:00

